

REMARKS

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action dated May 24, 2004 (Paper No. 4). Claims 1 to 14 are presented for examination, of which Claims 1, 12 and 13 are independent. Claim 15 has been cancelled. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

Claims 1 to 15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) over U.S. Patent No. 4,675,656 (Narcisse). Alternatively, Claims 1 to 4, 10 to 13 and 15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) over U.S. Patent Publication No. 2002/0193077 (Sakurai); Claim 5 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Sakurai; and Claims 6 to 9 and 14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Sakurai in view of Narcisse. The foregoing actions have been taken without prejudice or disclaimer of subject matter and without conceding the correctness of the rejections. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the remaining rejections are respectfully requested.

Independent Claim 1 recites a radio communication system having a base station and a plurality of terminals. The terminals each have a reception status detector for detecting a reception status of a signal received from the base station. In addition, the terminals each have a notification unit for notifying the base station of the reception status detected by the reception status detector. The base station includes a connection unit for connecting to the terminals and also includes a display control unit. The display control unit displays on a display unit an information about the terminals that could not be connected by the connection unit. In addition, the display control unit displays on a display unit the reception status notified from the notification unit of the terminals that could be

connected by the connection unit. In this way, a user of the system can quickly determine which terminals are unable to be connected to, and can determine the reception status of the connected terminals.

Independent Claims 12 and 13 are method and apparatus claims, respectively, that correspond generally to the apparatus of independent Claim 1. More specifically, each claim generally recites the feature of displaying on a display unit an information about the terminals that could not be connected and displaying on a display unit the reception status notified from the terminals that could be connected.

The applied art is not seen to disclose or suggest the features of independent Claims 1, 12 and 13, and in particular, is not seen to disclose or suggest at least the feature of displaying on a display unit an information about the terminals that could not be connected and displaying on a display unit the reception status notified from the terminals that could be connected.

Narcisse relates to an out-of-range personnel monitor and alarm. Narcisse is seen to teach a base station 10 that uses radio transmitter 12 to transmit a very low-power omnidirectional first electromagnetic signal. One or more identical mobile units 20 contain a fixed frequency receiver 24 tuned to the frequency of the first signal transmitted by the base station. The frequency receiver 24 outputs a signal which is an identification code or a tone modulated on the first carrier signal. The mobile units also contain a threshold circuit 26 which generates an output signal only when the detected receiver output signal falls below an amplitude level determined by the adjustment of the threshold circuit (col.2 lines 13-66). This fall in amplitude indicates that the mobile unit is outside of a

predetermined range away from the base station. A transmitter 28 in the mobile units transmits an output second electromagnetic signal when the threshold circuit 26 produces an output. This second signal is detected by the base unit 10 and triggers an alarm. In addition a display 18 indicates in sequence the mobile unit or units, if any, which have sent the second signal.

Thus, Narcisse provides information only for those mobile units for which it connects via the second signal. Narcisse is not seen in any way to teach displaying an information for terminals that were unable to be connected. Rather, Narcisse is seen to merely teach displaying, in sequence, the identification of mobile units from which the base station has received the second signal.

Sakurai relates to a radio communication apparatus. Sakurai is seen to teach a master 104b which communicates with slave 105b (see Fig. 24). When the apparatuses enter an in-speech state, the radio wave transmitted from the master 104b is received by the radio I/F unit 117d in slave 105b and the intensity of the radio wave is detected. From the detected intensity of the radio wave, a radio wave intensity notification message M501 is formed and transmitted at a predetermined level. The message M501 is received by master 104b and control unit 106b controls display 1103 to show a symbol indicative of the intensity of each radio wave in accordance with the radio wave intensity notification message (see paragraphs 187-189; Fig. 25).

Thus, Sakurai is seen to teach a master unit that displays symbols indicative of the detected radio wave intensity transmitted from a slave unit. Sakurai is not seen in

any way to teach or suggest displaying an information for terminals that were unable to be connected.

Accordingly, independent Claims 1, 12 and 13 are believed to allowable over the applied references.

The other claims in the application are each dependent from the independent claims and are believed to be allowable over the applied references for at least the same reasons. Because each dependent claim is deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, the individual consideration of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

No other matters being raised, it is believed that the entire application is fully in condition for allowance, and such action is courteously solicited.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, California office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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